

19 January 2010

HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS' COUNCIL MINUTES

The Health Care Consumers' Council was held at 1000, Tuesday, 19 January 2010, at the Naval Health Clinic Patuxent River (NHC), Conference Room.

1. CAPT Schmeiser, Executive Officer, Naval Air Station, welcomed those in attendance and thanked all Commands represented for all that they do, as it is appreciated. NCCM Feaster attending today for CMC Stigler.
2. CAPT Ireland, Commanding Officer, Naval Health Clinic, Patuxent River (NHCPR),
The USNS Comfort deployed to Haiti last week and all of the NHC Facilities personnel deployed for at least 6 months, probably longer. We appreciate everyone's patience in coming months as NHC tries to maintain our facility.
3. Ms. Pamela Ramseur, (representing CAPT Scott, Director for Health Services).
 - a. We have new providers in the clinic since our last meeting: (1) Pediatric Social Worker, Ms. Susanna McNamara. We are currently not accepting referrals as we are still working on putting a program in place and will have more information at the next meeting. (2) Contract Family Practice Physician, Dr. Christina Reilly-Torres, will begin seeing patients on 27 Jan 2010. She is replacing Dr. Gross and will take over as PCM for that panel. (3) Reserve Family Nurse Practitioner, CDR Moreno-Chow, will be working in our Family Medicine clinic starting Monday, 25 January for three months. She will be assisting Dr. Torres in seeing CDR Dalgetty's patients until he returns from deployment in the spring.
4. LCDR Stephens, Director for Administration. Lcdr Stephens reviewed ongoing construction projects. Two of the largest projects are the Occupational Health move from Bldg 436 to share space with the Optometry Clinic, and the windows project. The Occupational Health relocation will enhance efficiency of the PHA/physical process. The audio booth is being installed 19 Jan in the new Occupational Health/Optometry area. The window project will be cost over \$750,000 and will compliment force protection issues and improve energy efficiency. After this has been completed, Behavioral Health and SARP will move to Bldg 436 during the renovations. Parking in the past has been an issue and we working on a plan.
5. CDR Working, Director for Healthcare Business & Clinical Support Services
 - a. Blood Drive tomorrow @ 0900. Message went out to for on-line pre-registration. The blood goes to military units.
 - b. The Diversity Committee and NHC Laboratory have coordinated a Bone Marrow Drive which will be held Tuesday, 19 through Friday, 22 January; 1000 until 1530. Tables will be located at NEX, Drill Hall and NHC. A buccal (mouth) swab is taken from volunteers and the samples are sent to the C.W. Bill Young/Dod Marrow Donor Program laboratory in Washington DC. Branch clinics are included and the goal is 500 donors.
 - c. Loss of eligibility for Dependent Wards, Dependent Parents and Dependent Parents-In-Law: A review of the affected Secondary Dependency Records maintained by the Secondary Dependency Department at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) in Cleveland Ohio revealed that a few hundred of beneficiaries were not certified at the initial point nor re-certified at the four-year point as required. As a result, DFAS notified the Navy Project Office who

took action with DEERS/DMDC to remove the eligibility of these individuals retroactively to the date that the initial or re-certification should have been accomplished by the sponsor. Letters were sent to the sponsors of the affected dependents notifying them of the loss of eligibility and that they should contact DFAS to have this information updated and corrected. If this has affected you or one of your dependents, please contact DFAS, Secondary Dependency Department (2160204-4590). You may also access the DFAS website at WWW.DFAS.MIL, then click on Military Pay, then on Secondary Dependency Information. For additional questions, please contact Ms. Hambel, NHC Health Benefits Advisor, at 301-995-4980.

6. Ms. Ashton, Health Promotion:

a. Ship Shape starts today at 1400 for 1.5 hours and will run for eight consecutive weeks. February is Women's Heart Month and information will be in the Tester. In honor of Women's Heart Month, "Wear Red Day" is 5 Feb. The "Crews into Shape" program commences in March and is beneficial for active-duty preparing for the spring PRT.

7. Mr. Carpenter TRICARE Service Center (TSC) Manager:

a. TRICARE Coverage of Maternity-Related Ultrasounds. Routine ultrasounds are not covered – only medically necessary maternity-related ultrasounds. See attached information handed out by Mr. Carpenter.

b. TRICARE has two new behavioral health care options for beneficiaries. Time and distance are no longer obstacles for active duty families seeking behavioral health care with the introduction of two new programs:

(1) The web-based TRICARE Assistance Program (TRIAP) and tele-mental health program use telecommunication technologies to bring counseling assistance and behavioral health care to those who need it most. The TRIAP is a demonstration program available in the United States to active duty service members, those eligible for the Transitional Assistance Program and members with the TRICARE Reserve Select, as well as spouses of any age and other eligible family members 18 years of age or older. Eligible service members and family members can log on to TRIAP an unlimited number of times for supportive counseling or advice when dealing with personal problems impacting their work performance, health and well-being. Services include assessments, short-term counseling and, if the TRIAP counselor determines more specialized care is necessary, a referral to a more comprehensive level of care.

(2) Tele-mental health services, which use medically-supervised, secure audio-visual conferencing to link beneficiaries with offsite providers. Available to all TRICARE beneficiaries in the United States, tele-mental health care falls under TRICARE's telemedicine coverage. TRICARE's regional contractors have established network of mental health originating sites and networks of offsite providers who can evaluate, treat and refer patients as necessary via video. All aspects of behavioral health service are available, including psychotherapy and medication management. While most service members still get face-to-face care in a military treatment facility or through the TRICARE network, the addition of tele-mental health care enhances access to a variety of behavioral health care services.

c. Mr. Carpenter is available to provide briefings for units/commands. Interested Commands can contact him directly at 301-866-6060.

8. Ms. Lolita Tyler-Lockett, Fleet and Family Service Center (FFSC): Ms. Vicki Majors, Counseling and Advocacy Supervisor, filled in for Ms. Tyler-Lockett.

a. Suicide Prevention Training will be held Thursday, 28 January 2010, in Religious Program Center (Bldg 401) from 0730-1630. Ms. Tammy Smith from FFSC is coordinating this training. Registration is required; please sign up NLT 22 Jan by calling x2-4911. Historically attendees have been SPCs and support personnel – Chaplains, Medical, FFSCM, Command Representatives, Security, Fire and Safety. Participants will practice handling different scenarios through case study and role play.

b. Advocacy Committee meeting will be held Monday, 25 Jan @ 1300 in the Commander's large Conference Room Bldg 401.

9. CDR Padgett, Director for Public Health Services: See attached presentation.

a. H1N1 Influenza Status: 80% of Active duty have been immunized. 463 personnel remain that need to get the vaccine according to MRRS. Persons age 18 yrs and up may receive H1N1 influenza vaccine during walk-in hours at the **Preventive Medicine Department** on Tuesdays and Thursdays 0800-1130 and 1230-1500. For children 2-17, only the H1N1 mist is available also in Preventive Medicine. As of 1 Feb 10, however, H1N1 vaccine will be given at the Immunization dept. Immunizations are available to Active Duty, Family Members, Retirees with a valid DOD ID care as well as Government Civilians with a current CAC card. Contractors are not eligible for the vaccine from the clinic unless they also meet one of the other categories above.

b. Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Status:

97% of Active duty have been immunized, this is up from 88% in mid November. 77 personnel remain that need to get the vaccine according to MRRS. Persons age 6 months and up may receive seasonal influenza vaccine during walk-in hours at the **Immunization Department** on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 1300-1500. As of 1 Feb 10, however, seasonal flu vaccine will be given at the Immunization dept. Immunizations are available to Active Duty, Family Members, Retirees with a valid DOD ID care as well as Government Civilians with a current CAC. Contractors are not eligible for the vaccine from the clinic unless they also meet one of the other categories above.

c. Deployment Health Assessments:

100 personnel currently show in MRRS as requiring a PDHRA/DD2900. This is down from 101 in Nov, 157 in Sep, and 229 in July. Quarterly, a list of PDHRA/DD2900 deficiencies comes out from the CNO's office. Pax River has done a tremendous job of completing this requirement in personnel that deployed FROM Pax River. It is mostly people that transferred to Pax River with past deployments showing up on that deficiency list. Recommend unit check-in process include review of MRRS PDHRA status.

d. Medical Readiness Indeterminate:

226 personnel are showing as deficient on the PHA in MRRS. 304 more people will need a PHA before the end of March to be qualified for April PRT cycles. Approximately 430 Part 1 appointments (10 appts, 4 times a week) will be available and 530 people will need a Part 1 appointment before the end of March. The number of currently deficient personnel is going to make this tight. Deficient personnel are notified at the end of each month that they are deficient. Birth month personnel are notified two months in advance that they need to schedule the PHA/Flight Physical. Recommend that CFLs monitor PHA status monthly at unit level. At the beginning of March we will transfer existing PHA dates electronically from MRRS to PRIMs. SCR requesting automatic feed.

10. Forum for Questions: No additional questions.

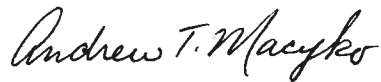
11. The meeting adjourned at 1055. Representatives were asked to pass information from this meeting to all members of their commands. The next Health Care Consumers' Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 16 March 2010 at 1000. The agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting. If a representative would like to have a topic covered at this forum, please contact the Ms. Jane Hambel at extension 5-4980.

Submitted:



CAPT L.A. IRELAND, NC, USN
COMMANDING OFFICER
NAVAL HEALTH CLINIC
PATUXENT RIVER

Reviewed:



CAPT A. MACYKO, USN
COMMANDING OFFICER
NAVAL AIR STATION
PATUXENT RIVER